[30th January 1931

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No. The investigation of a scheme of water-supply was once considered but was dropped in the year 1928 at the Municipal Council's request.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know whether the Government are aware of the need for a protected water-supply for Dharapuram ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" The Government are aware of the need, but they cannot help those people who are not willing to co-perate with them in the matter."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Have the Government ascertained the reasons for the failure of the people to co-operate with them ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" We asked the Municipal Council to bear one-half of the cost of the scheme and it refused and so we cannot help those who will not co-operate with the Government."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know whether it is the policy of the Government not to carry out such schemes even though they are required in the interests of the rate-payers ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" If the rate-payers, through their representatives, are not willing to bear a share of the cost, the Government cannot help it."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I ask the hon. Minister whether the Government cannot bear the full cost in the interests of the rate-payers ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" It is not possible to bear the whole cost in the present financial stringency."

Introduction of the Public Health Bill.

*246 *Q.*—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the introduction of a consolidated Public Health Bill is contemplated by Government ; and

(*b*) if so, when the Bill will be introduced ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Such a bill is under consideration but its introduction is not likely in the immediate future.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" May I know how long this bill has been under the consideration of the Government ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Firstly, the bill is very voluminous and it will take some time to consider it. Secondly, some time must be given for the present Acts to work to see how they work and what their merits and demerits are."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know whether, in view of the bad health of the Presidency, the Government will not expedite the matter ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I am afraid a mere bill will not improve the health of the province."